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Number 136

THE COMIC READER

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October 1976

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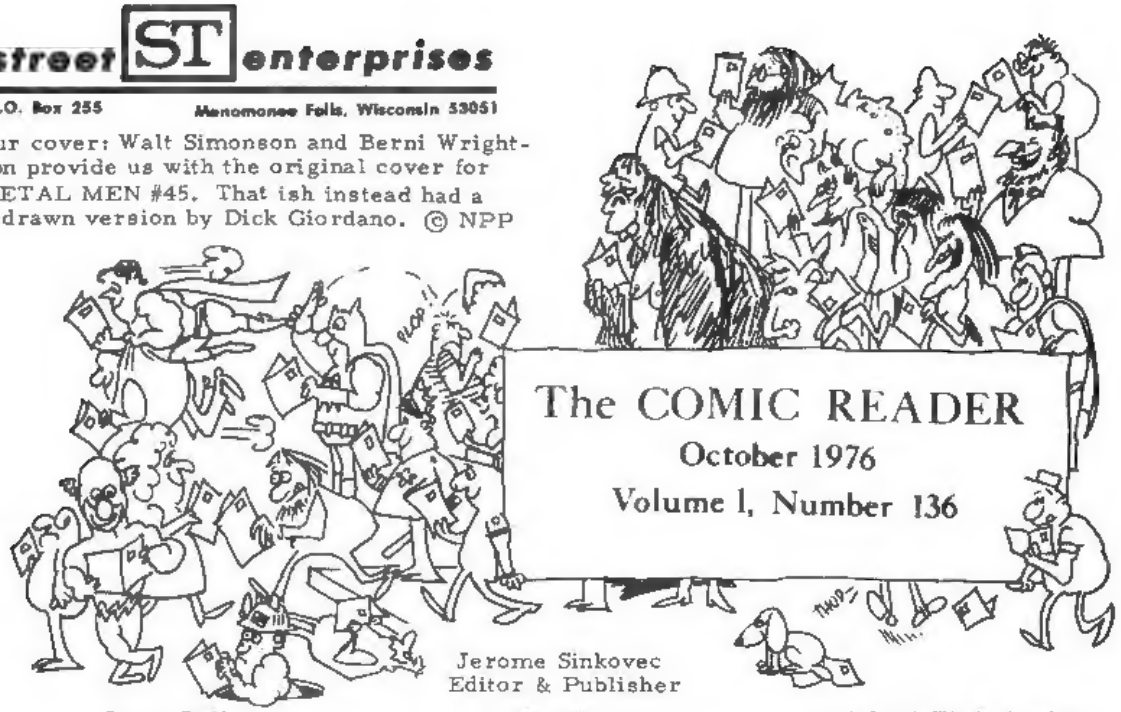
P.O. Box 255 Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051

Our cover: Walt Simonson and Berni Wrightson provide us with the original cover for METAL MEN #45. That ish instead had a redrawn version by Dick Giordano. © NPP



The COMIC READER

October 1976

Volume 1, Number 136

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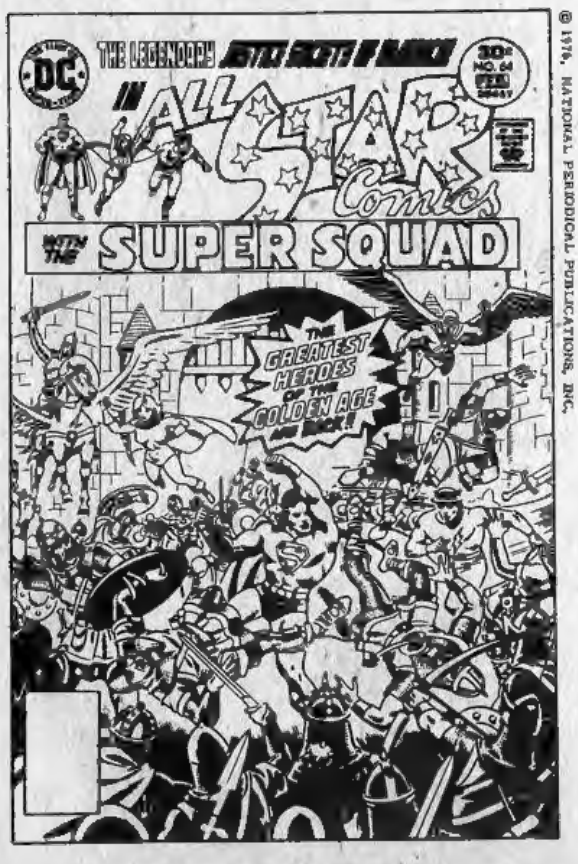
National News

Change is the order at National. New policy-maker Jenette Kahn has taken the initiative in improving artist-company relations, luring a number of departed talents back to the company and creating a much more logical and fair method of creating new books -- one in which a pilot is done before a book actually becomes a series so that bugs can be ironed out before the series is faced with deadlines. Perhaps most important to us, the comic reader, National is experimenting with a new format.

Beginning in December, four titles, THE SUPERMAN FAMILY, HOUSE OF MYSTERY, WORLD'S FINEST and G.I. COMBAT, will cost $1.00, and will be 80 page giants. Before mathematicians start figuring out comparative costs with former 80 pagers, we will mention that these books will contain 66 pages of new material -- roughly four times the new material contained in a 30¢ book. What these books will resemble for the most part are Golden Age titles, i.e., they will return the multi-character book to the stands.

THE SUPERMAN FAMILY will contain two JIMMY OLSEN stories by Cary Bates, Kurt Schaffenberger and Vince Colletta, a LOIS LANE story by Bill Kunkel, Jose Delbo and Bob Layton, a SUPERGIRL story by Jack C. Harris and Mike Vosburg, a WORLD OF KRYPTON tale by Paul Kupperberg and a SUPERBABY story by Nelson Bridwell, John Calnan and Bob Smith. These characters, as well as a new NIGHTWING AND FLAMEBIRD series, will make up each all-new issue.

HOUSE OF MYSTERY will revive the Cain-Abel-Eve vaudeville pages and Berni



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Wrightson has returned to do the cover of the first $1.00 issue.

WORLD'S FINEST will contain a SUPERMAN & BATMAN story by Bob Haney, Curt Swan and Murphy Anderson (who had so much fun doing the inking on Swan's new SUPERBOY story that he will regularly handle inking for this book), a WONDER WOMAN story by Denny O'Neil, Jose Delbo and Vince Colletta, a BLACK CANARY solo by Jack Harris, Mike Nasser and Terry Austin, THE GREEN ARROW by Tony Isabella, Mike Grell and Terry Austin, plus a VIGILANTE story by Bill Kunkel and John Calnan. In future issues, the material originally planned for the GREEN ARROW-BLACK CANARY book will be featured.

G.I. COMBAT will feature two HAUNTED TANK adventures by Bob Kanigher and Sam Glanzman plus war adventures drawn by George Evans, Ric Estrada, and John Calnan. Just prior to the title going to giant size, the 200th issue will contain a book-length adventure with the crew of The Haunted Tank teaming up with Sgt. Rock and The Losers.

New books: BLACK LIGHTNING will go on sale in January. JONAH HEX will begin with issue #1 because WEIRD WESTERN TALES will continue with a brand new character created by Sergio Aragones and Joe Orlando. They were also responsible for BAT LASH as you will recall.

Frequency changes: DETECTIVE COMICS is returning to bi-monthly -- which means that ACTION COMICS will finally pass it in numbering. GHOSTS, WEIRD WAR TALES and THE WITCHING HOUR are all going to twice quarterly status.

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Beginning with those books on sale in November, National comics will sport a new DC emblem, designed by Milton Glazer.

New-old faces: A number of old DC artists are returning to do covers for appropriate books. Aside from Neal Adams, and the aforementioned Berni Wrightson, Gray Morrow has done the cover to a MAGIC issue of DC SUPER STARS featuring ZATANNA. At the August Chicago Convention, Jenette Kahn also mentioned the possibility of Nick Cardy, Russ Heath and Jim Steranko doing covers.

Also returning after a long absence is Bob Brown, who will do the TEEN TITANS and THE BATMAN FAMILY.

Leaving: Ernie Chua, who recently corrected his legal name to Ernie Chan, has left his position as chief cover artist and BATMAN artist to work for Marvel. Chan's replacement on BATMAN is Philippines artist Romeo Tanghal who has done two issues so far.

Tony Isabella is no longer a Story Editor for National although he will continue to write for them. He has taken an office in Continuity Studios. Paul Levitz will take over as SE of THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER and SUPER-TEAM FAMILY, Jack Harris will be SE of THE WARLORD to enable Denny O'Neil to take over FREEDOM FIGHTERS. We're not sure who's doing YOUNG LOVE.

DC SPECIAL will be losing THE THREE MUSKETEERS as of issue #26 which will be an ENEMY ACE reprint. #27 will feature a brand-new story involving Chronos versus CAPTAIN COMET and TOMMY TOMORROW -- plus, a dinosaur invasion. It will be by Bob Rozakis and Rich Buckler.

Elliot Maggin is currently doing no comics scripting for National, although he will probably be writing the novelization of WONDER WOMAN for the upcoming Warner Paperback series. Denny O'Neil is doing the BATMAN novel.

Carl Gafford, assistant production manager and colorist for the past couple of years is now Carl Gafford, ex-assistant production manager and colorist as he's moved to California. We wish you luck, Gaff.

Mark Evanier has unretired from comics to do an issue of WELCOME BACK, KOTTER.

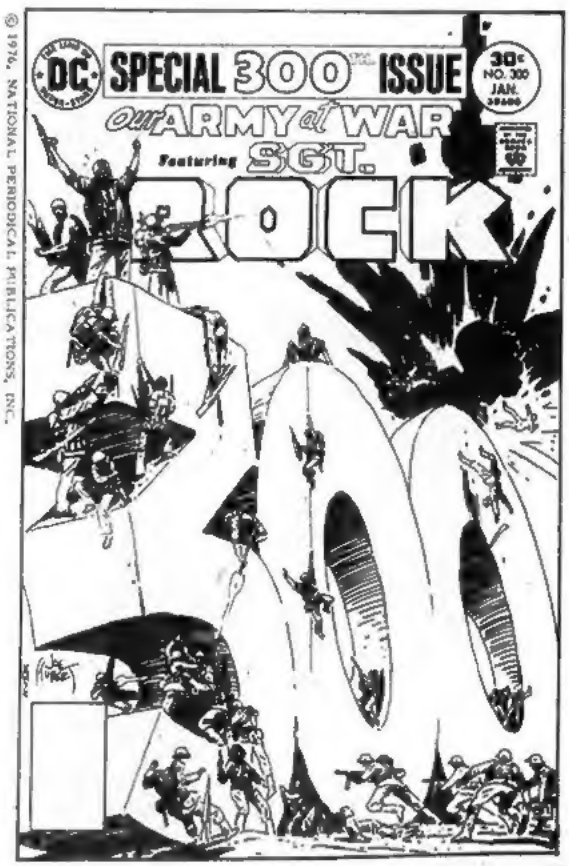
Yes, PLASTIC MAN and RICHARD DRAGON, KUNG FU FIGHTER have missed a couple of months. The September ~~PLASTIC~~ TIC MAN has been delayed until November. KUNG FU FIGHTER was only delayed from September to October.

The three Joe Kubert projects so often vaguely hinted to here -- THE SEXTET, PANZER and SAVAGE WORLD -- have been indefinitely postponed.

Jim Sherman has pencilled a fill-in issue of SUPERBOY #225, in which Wildfire is inducted as leader of The Legion. #226 introduces a new Legionnaire.

JLA #138, the last 30¢ issue, will be the first part part of a two-parter featuring Adam and Alanna Strange, and will be written by Cary Bates. The second half will be in the first half of the first 50¢ issue, #139. Also included will be a second story featuring Steve Englehart's debut as JLA scripter.

ISIS is being revamped to make the title character less of a TV character and



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more a comic book heroine. Denny O'Neil is doing a book-lengther to change the direction in which Isis will get a secret hideout in a pyramid.

Dick Ayers and Jack Abel are the new art team on FREEDOM FIGHTERS as of #7. Ramona Fradon and Bob Smith will be doing SUPER FRIENDS as of #3.

Recurring characters: A new version of Metallo is set to return in SUPERMAN; The Psycho Pirate will return to plague the JSA in ALL STAR COMICS; Superman will meet a new female super-villain fresh from the Phantom Zone; and John Stewart, Hal Jordan's substitute GL will return in GREEN LANTERN. Inspector Henderson, veteran of the SUPERMAN TV series and recent returnee to the comic book, will play a regular role in BLACK LIGHTNING.

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The fiftieth issue of METAL MEN is a reprint because of the usual deadline problems. Marty Pasko and Joe Staton have done framing pages.

Bob Layton will be regular inker of SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS over Rich Buckler's pencils.

Denny O'Neil plans to inject some humor into THE SUPERMAN FAMILY through the use of panel gags a la PLOP!

Denny O'Neil has stopped writing KAMANDI and Steve Englehart is doing at least one fill-in issue.

Al Milgrom is inking an issue of WORLD'S FINEST over Curt Swan's pencils. The story should appear in the final 30¢ issue.

Incredulous take note: the SUPERMAN-MUHAMMAD ALI book is proceeding, as Denny O'Neil and Neal Adams reunite as the new creative team. Denny has done thorough research on Ali, having read the biographies, Ali's autobiography, the sports articles and he and Neal have watched all available fight and training films of him. Denny and Neal have even gone to Chicago to meet with Ali's managers and they're slated to meet Ali soon. The plot concerns aliens who force Ali and Superman to fight it out on even terms.

Marvel News

Marvel will be reentering the funny animal field with two new books: SUPER RABBIT, The Marvel Bunny, and MIDAS THE MILLION DOLLAR MOUSE. Both will be scripted by Marv Wolfman; Sam Grainger will do the Rabbit and John Costanza the Mouse.

MARVEL COMICS GROUP.
30¢
1
FABULOUS FIRST ISSUE!
ALL-OUT ACTION
Ms. MARVEL
AT LAST! A BOLD NEW HEROINE WHO CAN HOLD HER OWN IN THE PANEL-STUNNING TRADITION OF SPIDER-MAN!

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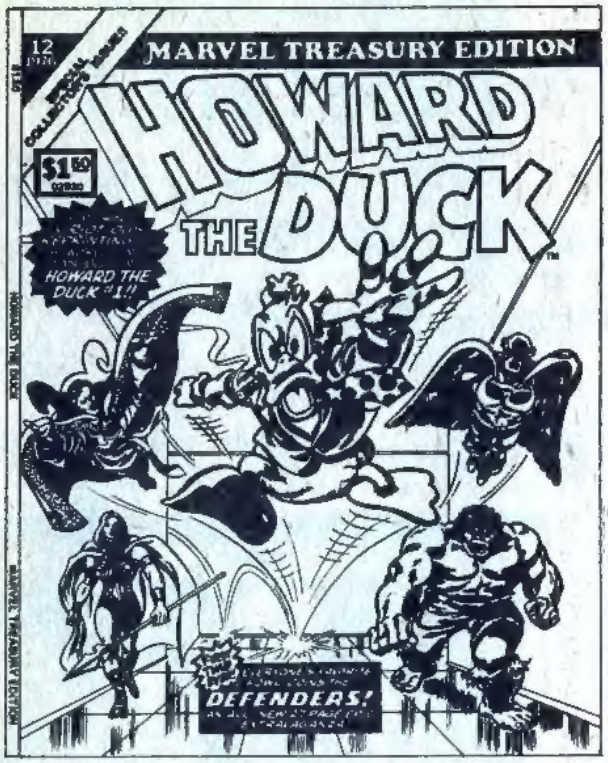
Roy Thomas is working on a super-hero set in Los Angeles in the 1950s called CAPTAIN 3-D for use in MARVEL SPOTLIGHT.

While rumor and speculation (spurred in part by Stan Lee himself at the Chicago Convention last month) are widespread, negotiations are still underway in Marvel's attempt to take over TARZAN. Nothing is definite, but the rumor is that it would be done by Roy Thomas and John Buscema. Again, no contracts have yet been signed.

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN, CRAZY and SPIDEY SUPER STORIES have all become monthlies.

THE RAMPAGING HULK #1 will be on sale in November.

Stan Lee has announced a number of new syndicated comic strips he will be writing.



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the most important of which (to us, at least) is the SPIDER-MAN daily and Sunday strip, to be written by Stan and drawn by John Romita. Another strip, this one to be syndicated by the L.A. Times Syndicate, is THE VIRTUE OF VERA VALIANT, is a sort of a MARY HARTMAN, MARY HARTMAN thing and is to be by Stan and either John Buscema or Frank Springer, depending on which ad you wanna believe. A third is to be by Stan alone, SAYS WHO!, with funny captions to photos from the Register & Tribune Syndicate. It is our intention to get at least one of the above strips for the GAZETTE, so watch for an announcement. Some should start in October.

Clarifications for last issue items: I mistook the lost issue of MARVEL PREVIEW, MAN-GOD, to be THOR. Actually, the lost one is the eternally upcoming adaptation of Philip Wylie's GLADIATOR book, which has been retitled so many times I lost track. Also, Dr. Droom (note the 'r') did indeed appear in AMAZING ADVENTURES, but it was the original series (which later became AMAZING ADULT FANTASY, then AMAZING FANTASY with the first appearance of Spider-Man) from 1961. A few readers were confused.

Ernie Chan (nee Chua) has returned to Marvel where he will resume his inking of CONAN and will do some covers.

Lee Elias has done an issue of DAREDEVIL and may very well remain permanent artist on the book since Bob Brown has left to go back to National.

Marv Wolfman will take over as writer-editor of MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE with #25 (the issue teaming The Thing and Iron Fist). Marv plans to reintroduce Wundarr into the storyline.

SPIDER WOMAN, originally from The New Men of THOR, will appear in MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #32 in a story by Archie Goodwin and Sal Buscema.

More five pagers in the works: CLEA by Naomi Basner, Sandy Plunkett and Tony Salmon; THE DESTROYER by Scott Edelman and Mike Zeck; and SPIDER-MAN by Edelman and John Romita, Jr.

Steve Gerber is now working exclusively on HOWARD THE DUCK and he is now editor as well as writer. Mary Skrenes will take over OMEGA with #7 and Jim Shooter inherits MARVEL PRESENTS as of #11. HOWARD THE DUCK #9 will involve Howie's search for the man who sabotaged his campaign.

WHAT IF...? #3 will feature a story hypothesizing events following the non-explosion of the bomb that put Captain America in suspended animation and killed Bucky. #4 will feature Conan falling through the time well of SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #7 and ending up in modern times. #5 will feature the Thomas-Adams version of the X-Men and #6 will have the FF with different powers.

Marvel is doing a character for publication in Great Britain only called CAPTAIN BRITAIN. The stories, six pages long and in full color, appear in a Marvel weekly in the U.K. There aren't any plans at the moment to print them here (it's our opinion that they probably will someday) but the British have welcomed CAPTAIN BRITAIN with enough enthusiam for Marvel to begin working on another title for Britain.

The Sub-Mariner will soon be vacating the pages of SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP and the book will concern itself with Dr. Doom's battles with other villains, including The Red Skull.

Dr. Druid will appear in THE INCREDIBLE HULK #201, where he will team with The Hulk and they will battle Mongu The Gladiator and the Maha Yogi (a.k.a., Merlin and

STAN LEE PRESENTS: THE COMING OF CAPTAIN BRITAIN!
BORN IN FULFILLMENT OF AN ANCIENT DREAM--FORGED AND TEMPERED IN THE FIRES OF DEFEAT AND DEATH...
...A MAN GIFTED WITH SUPERIOR POWERS AND ABILITIES...
--HE IS THAT RAREST OF ALL MEN!
A HERO!

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The Warlock). Letter columns will begin in WEIRD WONDER TALES as of #21.

Upcoming in THE ETERNALS: Ikaris, Margo and Makaari will visit Olympia and will meet Sprite, the whackiest Eternal of all (that's what it says here).

2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY #3 and 4 will be a two-parter featuring Marak The Merciless, #5 will star Norton Of New York!

Magneto will return to the pages of the X-MEN, speaking of which, they'll be battling The Firelord soon. In addition, they'll be a team-up of The X-Men and Iron Fist in a three part story which will appear in an issue of IRON FIST, then X-MEN, and then will conclude in IRON FIST.

Speaking of Iron Fist, coming appearances of Captain America and Boomerang are set for his book.

CAPTAIN MARVEL will feature a new villain called The Cheetah.

Dave Hunt will be inking an issue of FANTASTIC FOUR over George Perez's pencils.

The Executioner, The Enchantress and Loki are returning to plague Thor. Eventually, Thor will return to Earth.

Will-O'-The-Wisp, a new character, will appear in a future SPIDER-MAN.

Mike Ploog may return to do a fill-in issue of DOCTOR STRANGE. Meanwhile, Frank Brunner will return to draw the covers beginning with #22.

Iron Man will again be called in front of a Senate investigating committee.

Gil Kane is doing a CONAN story for the SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN.

MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS
50¢ 14
WAR OF THE WORLDS
ALL NEW MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS
52 FULL PGS. NO ADS
ADAPTED FROM THE CLASSIC NOVEL BY H. G. WELLS
THE THRILLS AND EXCITEMENT OF THE ORIGINAL CLASSIC—IN A POWERFUL NEW 52-PAGE MARVEL COMICS VERSION!!
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A new villain named The Enforcer will appear in an upcoming GHOST RIDER.

Western News

AFTER-THE-FACT NEWS, INC.: We never did receive the promotional stuff for the STARSTREAM series of 79¢ books, but they did come out. Since they'll be on sale for as long as they take to sell, we figured it might make sense to list their contents.

STARSTREAM (1, 1976). This one features Jack Williamson's "Dominus" adapted by Arnold Drake and Alberto Giolitti; Joan Hunter Holly's "The Last Guinea Pig" by G. Cruz-Santos and Frank Bolle; John W. Campbell's "Who Goes There?" by Arnold Drake and Jack Abel; Raymond Banks' "Rabbits To The Moon" by Steve Skeates and Jack Sparling; Howard Goldsmith's "The Music Of Minox" by Paul S. Newman and Jose Garcia-Lopez; and Chad Oliver's "Shaka" by Ed Summer and Adolfo Buylla. The cover is by Richard Powers.

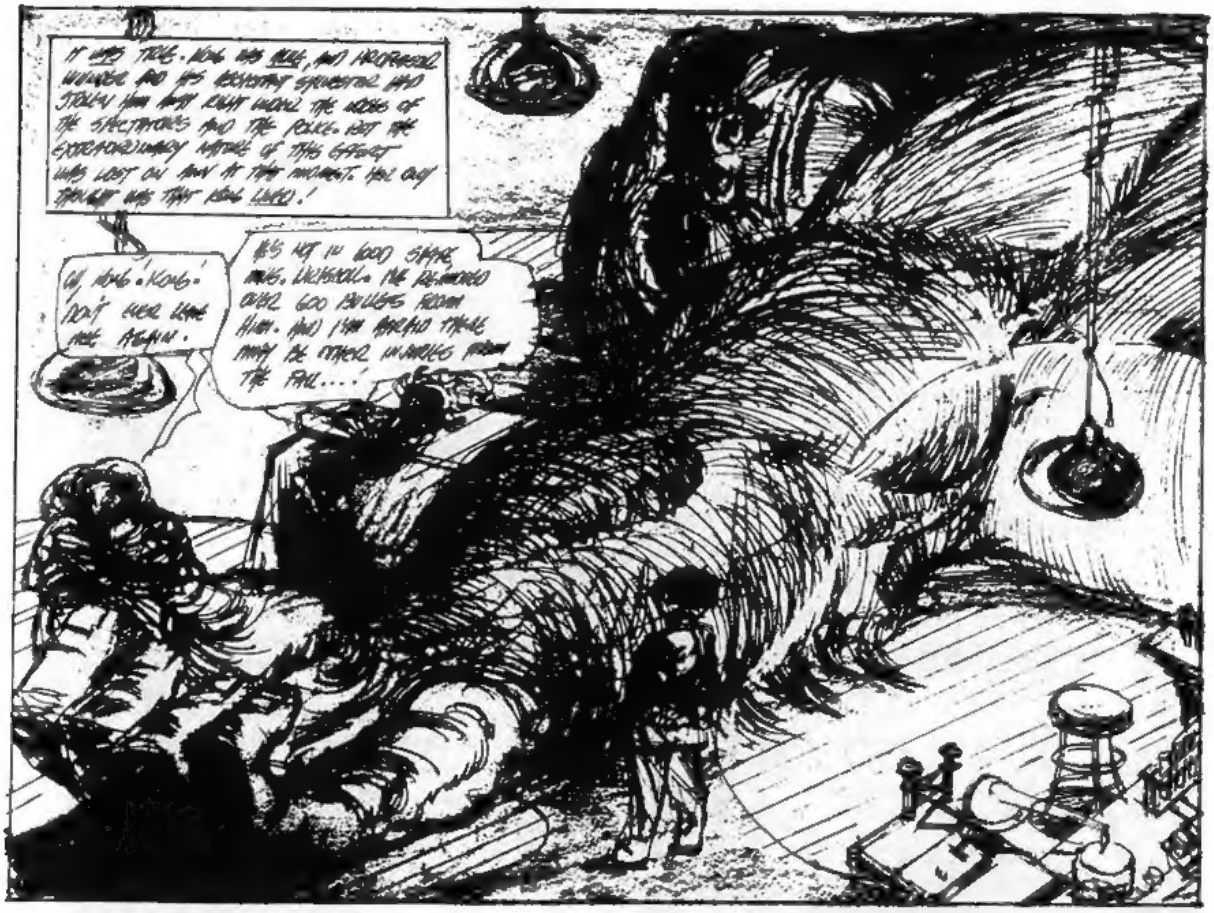
STARSTREAM (2, 1976). This issue contains Dean Koontz's "Night Of The Storm" by Wallace L. Green and Frank Bolle; Arnold Drake's "The Brain Traveller" by Al McWilliams; Larry Niven's "The Flight Of The Horse" by Allan Moniz and Jose Delbo; Robert Silverberg's "Collecting Team" by Steve Skeates and someone named Cambiotti; Arnold Drake's "The Utopia Tree" by Jack Sparling; Mary Schaub's "The Phoenix Planet" by Arnold Drake and Jose Delbo. The cover is by Ron Miller.

STARSTREAM (3, 1976). Featured in this issue: Jack Williamson's "Born Of The Sun" by Ed Summer and Don Heck; Harry Dawes'

"A Day In The Life Of Dr. Moon" by Frank Bolle; Theodore Sturgeon's "Microcosmic God" by Arnold Drake and Adolfo Buylla; A. E. Van Vogt's "Last Voyage Of The Albatross" by George Kashdan and Al McWilliams; and Anne McCaffrey's "The Crystal Singer" by Dan Weiss and Frank Bolle. The cover is by Alfred Jarnow.

STARSTREAM (4, 1976). This one features Poul Anderson's "Call Me Joe" by George Kashdan and Adolfo Buylla; Pamela Eckard's "Benjamin Franklin -- Martian" by Frank Bolle; Issac Asimov's "Does A Bee Care?" by Allan Moniz and Jack Abel; Stephen Goldin's "The City" by Arnold Drake and Jose Delbo; Roger Elwood's "Report To The Plenary Council" by George Kashdan and Al McWilliams; and Robert Bloch's "And The Blood Ran Green" by Arnold Drake and Nevio Zaccara. The cover is by Kees Romer. All four issues were edited by Roger Elwood.

Also issued in August was Whitman's STAR TREK: THE ENTERPRISE LOGS, a 224 page, $1.95 reprint comic book featuring the first eight issues of the Gold Key comic book by Nevio Zaccara and Alberto Giolitti. Also included are six new pages by Alden McWilliams. Sales on this book seem to be going quite well in the bookstore we've seen it in. A nice format.


IT WAS TRUE. KONG WAS DEAD, AND PROFESSOR HARKER AND HIS ASSISTANT SYLVESTRE HAD STOLEN HIM AWAY RIGHT UNDER THE NOSES OF THE SPECTATORS AND THE POLICE. NOT THE EXTRAORDINARY NATURE OF THIS EFFECT WAS LOST ON HIM AT THIS MOMENT. HIS ONLY THOUGHT WAS THAT KONG LIVED!
OH, KONG. KONG. DON'T MOVE. LIE STILL AGAIN.
HE'S NOT IN GOOD SHAPE, MRS. UNDERHILL. HE BLEEDED OVER 600 MILES FROM HERE. AND I'M AFRAID THAT MANY OF OTHER WOUNDS FROM THE FALL....

Warren News

Bad news for all of you Spirit fans -- THE SPIRIT #16 was the last issue. Sigh.

An upcoming CREEPY issue will sport a cover by Frank Frazetta -- never-before published -- done originally for a new magazine that Warren was working on a few years back that never came about. The writers were sent stats of the cover and told to work up stories to go around it. Carmine Infantino illustrated one of them, as shown in the accompanying stat, which should give you some idea what the issue's about.

Cary Bates and Larry Hama are co-writing a story for Warren.

Gonzalo Mayo will ink an Infantino story.

CREEPY #85 will be an all-monsters issue.

Coming Comic

EERIE (80, December). The conclusion of the Bruce Jones-Richard Corben time travel story is "Years And Mine Forever"; the next chapter of the Darklon series is "Retribution" by Jim Starlin; part two of the 3rd Person Singular series is by Budd Lewis and Luis Bermejo; the second part of the Pea-Green Boat series is "On Moonlight Bay" by Budd Lewis and Leo Sanchez; part two of the Time Spawn series features vampires in outer space in a story by Gerry Boudreau and Gonzalo Mayo; "Scalliwag" is a samurai adventure by Budd Lewis and Jose Ortiz; and the second episode of Cronk is by Carmine Infantino and Al Milgrom. The cover is by Ken Kelley. (10/28)

Charlton

Due to what they term an "industry-wide recession," Charlton has cut its output by half -- cancelling fourteen titles and cutting four that haven't even started. They are also decreasing frequency on a few romance books. These are the last issues:

BLONDIE #222, November
BEETLE BAILEY #119, November
THE GREAT GRAPE APE #2, November
POPEYE #138, January
SARGE SNORKEL #17, December
SCOOBY DOO #11, December
FIGHTIN' MARINES #132, November
SCARY TALES #9, January
FOR LOVERS ONLY #98, November
I LOVE YOU #121, December
MY ONLY LOVE #9, November
SECRET ROMANCE #41, November
TEEN CONFESSIONS #97, November
SPACE: 1999 #7, November (which we neglected to mention two months ago)

The following books were cancelled before they were published:

C. B. SAGAS
DYNOMUTT
JABBERJAWS
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE (this is said to be especially sad since the first issue was done and was funny and delightful)

SECRETS OF YOUNG BRIDES, LOVE DIARY and JUST MARRIED have been made quarterly as of this month.

Charlton is not going out of business, they are merely attempting to weather a low spot in industry-wide sales. No layoffs are expected, although some artists and writers won't be receiving assignments for a while.

LATE ANNOUNCEMENT: After thirty years in the industry, Charlton has announced that they are abandoning their comics line entirely and that all employees have been layed off. We don't know how many of the already completed titles will make it to the stands, including those listed this issue. Our thanks to all of the kind people at Charlton who've helped us over the years and continued good luck.

Coming Comics

THE PHANTOM (74, January). This is the final issue and was delayed from last month. (10/7)

POPEYE (138, January). Also the final issue, and also delayed from last month. (10/7)

MONSTER HUNTERS (9, January). Final issue, delayed from last month. (10/7)

SCARY TALES (9, January). The last one from last month's schedule. (10/7)

THE GREAT GAZOO (20, January). (10/14)

DINO (20, January). (10/14)

YOGI BEAR (35, January). (10/21)

HAUNTED (31, January). (10/21)

SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN Magazine (4, January). Delayed, we think. (10/21)

EMERGENCY! Magazine (4, January). Delayed. (10/21)

WAR (10, January). (10/28)

SECRETS OF YOUNG BRIDES (10, January). (10/28)

THE FLINTSTONES (50, February). (10/28)

Gold Key

WALT DISNEY SHOWCASE #38, to contain the first appearance of MICKEY AND THE SLEUTH, has been delayed from its original November starting date to January, in order to tie in with other-media appearances, as in the Comet DISNEY MAGAZINE giveaway now being advertised.

Walt Disney DONALD DUCK (178, December). New stories. (10/7)

Walt Disney MICKEY MOUSE (168, December). Reprints. (10/7)

PORKY PIG (72, December). New stuff. One reprint page. (10/7)

MAGNUS, ROBOT FIGHTER (46, January). A Russ Manning reprint. (10/7)

UFO FLYING SAUCERS (13, January). New stories. (10/7)

Walt Disney UNCLE SCROOGE (135, December). A Carl Barks reprint. (10/14)

YOSEMITE SAM AND BUGS BUNNY (41, December). New stories. (10/14)

THE OCCULT FILES OF DOCTOR SPEKTOR (23, December). New stuff. (10/14)

LOONEY TUNES (11, December). New stories and a one page rerun. (10/14)

Walt Disney MOBY DUCK (25, January). New stories. (10/14)

GOLD KEY SPOTLIGHT (4, January). This issue features another TOM, DICK AND HARRIET issue by Mark Evanier and Lee Holley. (10/14)

BEEP BEEP, THE ROAD RUNNER (61, December). New stories; one page reprint. (10/21)

BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY (72, December). New stories. (10/21)

FAT ALBERT (16, December). New stories. (10/21)

LITTLE MONSTERS (37, December). New except for a one-page reprint. (10/21)

UNDERDOG (10, December). New. (10/21)

DAFFY DUCK (105, December). You guessed it -- new with a one page reprint. (10/21)

BUGS BUNNY (179, December). New and one page reprint. (10/28)

TWEETY AND SYLVESTER (64, December). New stories. (10/28)

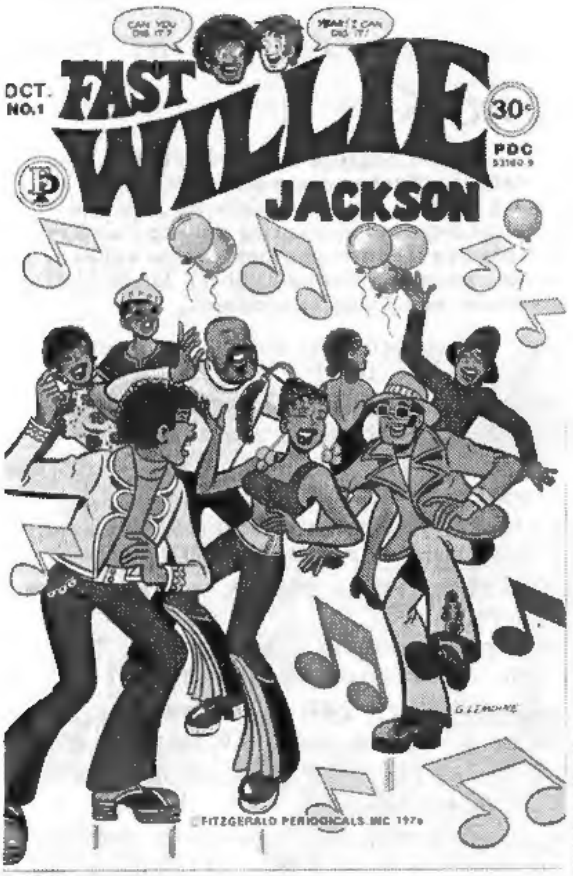
WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES (435, December). Half new, half old. (10/28)

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! (66, December). New stories. (10/28)

SPACE FAMILY ROBINSON LOST IN SPACE (50, January). New except for that one page reprint. (10/28)

Walt Disney WINNIE THE POOH (1, January). New stories of the former Edward Bear. (10/28)

Et Al



Well, it isn't Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., but there IS a new comics company on the newsstand these days. Fitzgerald Publications, publishere of GOLDEN LEGACY, a Black history comic book distributed through schools, have published FAST WILLIE JACKSON #1, which could be described as a Black version of Archie. The only person other than Bertram Fitzgerald named in the book is the cover artist, G. Lemoine -- which may or may not be a real name. The cover date of #1 is October, 1976, and is listed as a bi-monthly. PDC distributes. It came out sometime in August.

Archie

COMING COMICS: (All dated December) ARCHIE'S PALS 'N' GALS #110, ARCHIE'S JOKEBOOK #227, BETTY AND VERONICA #252, PEP #320 and ARCHIE #258, on sale September 28.

LITTLE ARCHIE #113, ARCHIE AND ME #88, REGGIE AND ME #92, LAUGH #309, LIFE WITH ARCHIE #176, and JUGHEAD #259, on sale October 5.

SABRINA THE TEEN-AGE WITCH #36, and BETTY AND ME #80, on sale October 12.

ARCHIE'S TV LAUGHOUT #45, EVERYTHING'S ARCHIE #53, JOSIE AND THE PUSSYCATS #93 and ARCHIE AT RIVERDALE HIGH #41, on sale October 19.

Again we apologize for having no Harvey coming comics listings this month; the matter is out of our hands but we'll try to get something next month.

COMELY COMIX, publisher of Canada's CAPTAIN CANUCK is moving from its former Winnepeg base to Cardston, Alberta where the editorial staff takes over the publishing of Cardston's weekly newspaper. CAPTAIN CANUCK #4 will be a 52 page giant, printed by World Color Press in Sparta, the same printer that DC and Marvel use. The cover price will be 50¢ and will contain "Behind The Mask," an eighteen page CAPTAIN CANUCK story, a CATMAN story, and a CHAOS CORPS story (a humorous super-group featuring Duckman, Pink Pong, Tartan, The Skunk, Screwdriver, Alphie, Prof. Von Holt, Fastman and Bad Breath). We hope to have continuing Comely Comics news in future issue.

Continuity Assoc.

Apologies to Gary Winnick for misspelling his name last issue... Continuity's Joe Brozowski and Frank Cirocco are doing work for Gold Key... Carl Potts is doing a six page strip for WITZEND... Continuity is doing a number of motion story-boards for Remington, New Season Hair Shampoo, Purina Cat Chow, Rice Chex and Nyquil plus Minit Maid Orange Juice. Watch for them in the coming season... Neal Adams designed the costumes and the set for VOLPONE or THE FOX, a play set to open in Chicago... Neal also has a six panel comic strip in a recent edition of THE NEW YORKER... Tony Isabella has an office in the Continuity Studios... Neal Adams has done the poster for the film BACK STREET FIGHTER... Tony Salmon inked Sandy Plunkett's five page CLEA story for Marvel... Continuity has recently done advertising art for Batman, Tarzan, James Bond and Kojak dolls and an extensive Batcave for Mego Toys... CHERI Magazine reprinted the Adams-Hama-Reese story "Over And Under" from BIG APPLE COMICS... Western Publishing is coming out with two illustrated storybooks for its readers. One

is ISIS, which was done by Mike Nasser, the other is SPIDER-MAN, which was pencilled by Nasser and inked by Jack Abel... Finally, Neal Adams has done some newspaper ads for Stove-Top Stuffing, as shown in the accompanying illustration.

Media News

Ngoan chieu to all of you Vietcong... Forgot to mention last time that all of the options on all of the Marvel characters for movie projects have been dropped. And I so wanted to see how the heck they'd do the Hulk... All of you out there who've been privileged to see the Spider-Man Hudson Vitamin commercials may never be able to again. The FTC has ruled that using Spidey to sell a drug to little children is a no-no on kid-vid time -- and I doubt that using the commercials after 9:00 PM on the East Coast makes much sense. Spidey is also shrinking to a smaller size on the label. The fear is that the kids will listen to their hero and o.d. on vitamins... Okay, you all probably know that James Caan is out as The Man Of Steel. It seems he didn't like Salkind's propensity for making two films out of one, i.e., the THREE and FOUR MUSKETEERS. So they still haven't signed anybody. But Bruce Jenner, Olympic decathalon winner, but unknown amateur actor, is pushing for the part. Don't even know what he looks like, but perhaps an unknown would be the best idea... According to VARIETY, filming on the STAR TREK movie won't begin until Spring of '77, having been pushed back from November for some reason. Gene Roddenberry, of course, is producing, and Alan Scott (Green Lantern?) and Chris Bryant of London are the scripters. The director has yet to be chosen -- and when he is, construction of the new Enterprise will begin (it was supposed to begin in July). Roddenberry says it will considerably more sophisticated and updated than the original, 1966 version. Let's get on with it already! You've been talking for two years!... ABC and NBC have switched nights on a bunch of their shows in a last-minute attempt to prevent disaster. NBC dropped SNIP and GIBBSVILLE for made-for-TV movies, but other than that, most of the changes allow me to see more of the shows that I wanted to see -- for once. NBC did switch GEMINI MAN to Thursday, removing it from the same spot that INVISIBLE MAN failed in. Good thinking!... Bionic fans will be glad to hear that Universal is doing episodes featuring a bionic boy and a bionic dog -- sort of a literal Rusty and Rin Tin Tin... Steve Krantz IS doing something, if not the Marvel films. A "Fun-In-The-Future" series will begin with HOLLYWOOD HIGH 2000, out in October. It will include a lot of promotion, including a paperback series, and (it says here) a series of comic books from Marvel. HH2000 portrays a reversal of male-female roles in the year 2000, as women have taken over the government, there's a woman president and the right to vote has been repealed for men. The high school trains boys to become househusbands after graduation and allows them to become cheerleaders and baton twirlers, while women train for careers and star in athletics. It's about time, I say... The JAMES BOND entry, THE SPY WHO LOVED ME, will be filmed chiefly in Rome... The first episodes of the new season for M*A*S*H and ALL IN THE FAMILY will be an hour long. Speaking of M*A*S*H, Hot Lips will be marrying (someone other than Frank), while Larry Linville has said that this will be his last season. M*A*S*H producer Gene Reynolds is working on an as-yet-untitled wartime nurse gang comedy, obviously attempting to duplicate the success of his other wartime gang comedy. No complaints here... Other CBS mid-season pilots include ROBERT KLEIN'S FREE TV, ABOUT FACE (a non-Gene Reynolds wartime WAC comedy) and THE FOX, a bumbling private eye (which sounds suspiciously like the PINK PANTHER series -- maybe they could get Peter Sellers...). NBC is doing THE INCREDIBLE ISLAND, THE MAN FROM ATLANTIS and SCOTT FREE (probably not the "miracle" man we all know). - RB

TCR Mailboat

Dear Jerry and Mike,

Let's see if I can answer some of the questions in the latest TCR for you...

Gold Key's license to do the Warner Brothers characters was, indeed, recently renewed. I am given to understand that the current contract is for ten years, though that may include some option periods. I've heard conflicting reports as to whether or not the characters (Bugs Bunny, et al) were offered to DC. The folks at Gold Key say there was never any question of renewal for two reasons: 1) The people who control the licensing are very pleased with Gold Key's handling of the characters and 2) Gold Key/Western also produces the Bugs Bunny coloring books, games, Little Golden Books and other Looney Tunes paraphenalia which DC is in no position to market.

The Joe Kubert-created TARZAN material is wholly owned by Edgar Rice Burroughs, Incorported, and, you're right, will probably never see print in this country again. ERB sells the reprint rights overseas and wants whatever new American publisher there might be to produce NEW material which ERB can then also sell to foreign countries. By the way, the material which my staff and I produced (and are still producing) for the foreign market is being printed overseas and I have no idea how to get copies.

Be of good cheer,
MARK EVANIER, Los Angeles, CA

(Thanks for the information, Mark. I guess as long as the GK Warner Bros. books continue to sell -- as we are told they do -- it is safe to say that GK will continue to retain

the rights. Ideally, Warner might like all their eggs in one basket, but why rock the boat -- to mix metaphors. It's too bad ERB's comics group didn't come off. Good luck in television land! MT)

Comment

It isn't exactly surprising that Charlton found they had to make such drastic cuts in their line. Comic sales have continually decreased in the passing years and there have really been no indicators shown that they will reverse themselves. In addition, it is a known fact that comics sales slump in the post-Christmas, pre-summer months, and these are evidently the months' sales that prompted John Santangelo, Sr. to take a careful look at the line and cut the stragglers. If comics have picked up in the summer months, sales reports won't be available to the companies until this winter.

You'll notice that a great many of the titles they've cut were licensed. Charlton no longer publishes any King Features characters, and they've cut their Hanna-Barbera books to Flintstones-related books and Yogi Bear. They're still licensing EMERGENCY and SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN -- apparently because of a year's contract -- but all in all, despite whatever tie-in possibilities the books may have had, licensed properties couldn't cut it saleswise. And I believe that it has less to do with the comics being Charlton's than it has to do with an industry-wide situation.

Despite plummeting sales, the number of comics on the stands continues to increase. The Comics Code Authority reported that they had reviewed 150 titles in June, as compared to 121 the previous year. If one considers that each title sells around 120,000 copies per issue, obviously, total sales increase. But, if one considers that each of those titles costs a certain amount in cash outlay, whereas increased sales for the already-existant titles would be pure profit, one has to wonder about the intelligence in glutting the stands. Have the sales slumped because of the lack of buyers, the bad distribution or the other oft-used reasons -- or has overkill done it?

Because of the number of titles per month that buyers have to choose from -- and fired by the increasing price per comic -- far fewer people can buy as many books as perhaps they once did. Not only does this mean that avant-garde, marginal series won't get the sales they need to continue -- it also means that longtime favorites like SPIDER-MAN and SUPERMAN will slump.

Naturally, the fan in me doesn't want to cut the choice we have now, nor would I like the jobs of the many people who now work in the industry to be eliminated because of it. It seems to me that something will have to be done, however, to relieve the great logjam of books on the stands. Perhaps National has fallen upon the best idea.

The $1.00 80 page format with all-new material seems to me one that could very well be successful. Not only do you get more new material in this package than you would in three-and-a-third 30¢ comics, you get it in one package as one comic. Naturally, the savings in paper consumption exist and this would decrease the number of titles on the stands by two thirds if three existant books could be combined. In addition, experimentation with new features, and indeed, continuation of series with iffy sales potential, is made possible in that the book is sold by the main feature. At present, the formats of the four $1.00 books (as described in this issue) call only for expansion of their present formats and not for the consolidation of books. But it is possible that this format could provide the space for pilots -- something that DC has lacked since the demise of SHOWCASE. Allying a new feature with an established feature and then spinning it off instead of starting something new out cold in its own book, would, in theory at least, seem to provide a greater possibility of success for a new book.

Unfortunately, I do not have much faith in the sales potential of the new $1.00 books. First of all, DC is not dealing from a position of strength from the number two position. Where their move may have once caused the competition to jump on the bandwagon and do their own 80 pagers, now Marvel has only to sit back and watch. Should a previous estimate of mine, i.e., the size of the entirety of fandom (100,000 plus), be correct, the "all-new" epithet on the covers may make a difference. If, however, comics buyers are actually the mindless, spur-of-the-moment purchasers we're frequently told they are, then that all-new bit isn't going to help, and cost comparisons ($1.00 compared to 30¢) will cause buyers to ignore the big books completely. I have the feeling that we'll see those four books return to thirty-two pages in about a year. Unless...

Marvel could make a difference. If they were to combine a few books or alter a title or two to the larger format, perhaps an acceptance of the size would result. Their sales lead may indeed be an illusory one based upon their number of titles, but their complicity in this format-change could make it permanent. It could make realistic again the use of secondary characters, vignettes and one-shot "for-the-heck-of-it" characters. The creative people would like it, I'm sure. It would give newcomers the space to try out, too. But would Marvel make the gamble?

Let's face it, retailers are going to like $1.00 books a lot more than 30¢ers -- but we won't if there are still 70 Marvel titles and 50 Nationals each month. Will the comics industry continue to grow sideways instead of upward or will they decide that it is time to change? We shall soon see.

- Andy Hildebrand

TCR Message

This issue is a little advertising-heavy but we had a bit of a backlog and it pays the bills. We're revamping THE WRITER'S SIDE, hence its absence. The letters section was truncated too this time; it'll be larger next issue.

I neglected to mention it last time, but fellow-Wisconsinite Mark Gruenwald has written an excellent monograph on the many inconsistencies of DC/Marvel continuity entitled A TREATISE ON REALITY IN COMIC LITERATURE. It's $2.50 to: 1260 Westhaven Dr., Oshkosh, WI 54901, postpaid. Worth it.

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Obituaries

Frank Bellamy, artist on the fine English comic strip GARTH (featured in The Menomonee Falls GAZETTE), passed away July 5th of a heart attack. He was 59. He provided the artwork for THE AVENGERS episode, "The Winged Avenger," and won a SHAZAM award in 1972 for his work in English comic weeklies. Frank was a fine artist and we mourn his death.

Marvel Coming Comics

DAREDEVIL (141, January). All the various issues dovetail into one vicious scheme as Bullseye returns as a hit-man out to get Foggy and friends in "Target: Death" by Marv Wolfman, Jim Shooter, Gil Kane (pencils, pp. 1-12), Bob Brown (pencils, pp. 13-17), Jim Mooney(inks) and Dave Cockrum (cover). (10/5)

THE INVADERS (12, January). There's a Nazi defector involved in the costumed debut of Spitfire in "To The Warsaw Ghetto" by Roy Thomas, Frank Robbins and Frank Springer. The cover is by Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. (10/5)

MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE (23, January). The Thing and Thor battle Seth on the Bridge to Heaven in "Battle On The Bridge To Heaven" by Bill Mantlo, Jim Shooter, Ron Wilson, Marie Severin and Pablo Marcos. The cover is by Ron Wilson and Joe Sinnott. (10/5)

KID COLT OUTLAW (214, January). (10/5)

MS. MARVEL (1, January). Ms. Marvel is introduced, sans origin, as Carol Danvers, journalist and editor of the feminist magazine WOMAN, which is published by J. Jonah Jameson. She battles the Scorpion after a bank robbery in "The Woman, The Warrior" by Gerry Conway, John Buscema and Joe Sinnott. The cover is by John Romita and Dick Giordano. (10/5)

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS (68, January). From FF #86: "The Victims" by Stan Lee Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. (10/5)

MARVEL FEATURE (8, January). If all goes as it should, this should contain Captain America reprints from TALES OF SUSPENSE #96 & 97: "To Be Reborn" and "And So It Begins" all by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. (10/5)

MARVEL TREASURY EDITION (12, 1976). HOWARD THE DUCK is the focus in this issue which features a new HOWARD story, "The Duck & The Defenders," by Steve Gerber, Sal Buscema and Steve Leialoha. The villains include Tillie The Hun, Dr. Angst, The Mundane Sorcerer, I -- Bullseye, The Spanker and The Black Hole. There's a new splash page by Val Mayerik to reprints from FEAR, GIANT-SIZE MAN-THING and HOWARD #1, plus a cover gallery. The cover is by Gene Colan. (10/5)

MARVEL PREVIEW (8, January). Morbius appears in "Madman Of Mansion Slade" by Doug Moench and Sonny Trinidad, Blade appears in "Into The House Of Terror" by Marv Wolfman and Gene Colan, "The Reality Manipulators" is by Don McGregor and Mike Ploog, and "Curse Of Anubis" is by Russ Jones and John David Warner (story) and Val Mayerik (art). This last-minute LEGION OF MON-

STERS issue sports a cover by Ken Barr. (10/5)

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (164, January). Spidey has six hours to live -- a "Deadline" in the most physical sense of the word. Story is by Len Wein, with art by Ross Andru and Mike Esposito. The cover is by John Romita. (10/12)

CAPTAIN AMERICA (205, January). Whoops! THIS one should be "Agron Walks The Earth" by Jack Kirby and John Verpoorten. The cover is by Kirby and Joe Sinnott. (10/12)

THOR (255, January). Thor, in his continuing quest for Odin, meets the Stone Men From Saturn in "Lo, The Quest Begins" by Len Wein and Tony DeZuniga. The cover is by Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. (10/12)

MASTER OF KUNG FU (48, January). Fu Manchu revives his new son, The Ultimate

Warrior and sends him after Shang Chi in "Part IV (Black Jack Tarr): City In The Top Of The World" by Doug Moench and Paul Gulacy. The cover is by Marie Severin and Dave Cockrum. (10/12)

THE ETERNALS (7, January). An interlude with Ajak and Dr. Damian in which some SHIELD agents discover that they're not as tough as they thought occurs in "The Fourth Host" by Jack Kirby and Mike Royer. The cover is by Kirby and Royer. (10/12)

RED SONJA (1, December). Comics most obvious example of barbarian pulchritude gets her own book. Only a virgin may tame a unicorn, legend has it -- so how does Sonja manage same? The answer is in this issue by Roy Thomas (based on an idea by Ed Summer) and Frank Thorne. The cover is by Thorne. (10/12)

THE CHAMPIONS
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10
HERCULES • BLACK WIDOW • ANGEL • GHOST RIDER • ICEMAN
THE CHAMPIONS
RIDE, SATAN-SPAWN! THE SONS OF ZELO MUST BREAK FREE!
BACK, HERCULES! YOU'LL FEEL THE FULL FURY OF HELL--
--BEFORE I LET YOU ESCAPE THIS ROOM!
CHAMPION VS. CHAMPION!
THE DEMON AND THE DEMI-GOD!

WEIRD WONDER TALES (20, January). Dr. Druid stars in "Behold The Power Of Zamu" by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Dick Ayers. Plus: "The Madness" by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby with Dick Ayers; "What Happened In The Wax

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Museum" by Lee and Steve Ditko; and "One Man's Leprechaun" by Lee and Mort Drucker. The cover is by Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. (10/12)

MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION (33, January). This one's from AVENGERS #41: "Let Sleeping Dragons Lie" and it's by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and George Roussos. (10/12)

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES (62, January). From HULK #108: "Monster Triumphant" by Stan Lee, Herb Trimpe and John Severin. (10/12)

PLANET OF THE APES (27, December). The menace of the bionic apes! The return of The Inheritors! The Secret Of The Makers! All in "Apes Of Iron" by Doug Moench, Herb Trimpe and Virgilio Redondo. Plus, Part 6 of the latest adaptation, "Conquest Of Blood" by Moench and Virgilio Redondo. The cover is by Malcolm McN. (10/12)

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN (16, December). Presenting the first chapter of "The People Of The Black Circle" by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Alfredo Alcala. Plus, "Worms Of The Earth" by Roy, Barry Smith (fifteen pages of pencils) and Tim Conrad (five pages of pencils and all inks). And, another Hyborian Age chapter by Walt Simonson and an article. (10/12)

THE INCREDIBLE HULK (207, January). The Defenders drop in to try to calm down The Hulk in "Alone Against The Defenders" by Len Wein, Sal Buscema and Joe Staton. The cover is by Dave Cockrum. (10/19)

THE AVENGERS (155, January). The Beast, The Whizzer and Wonder Man battle Sub-Mariner in Washington DC in this issue by Gerry Conway, George Perez and Sam Grainger. The cover is by Jack Kirby and Al Milgrom. (10/19)

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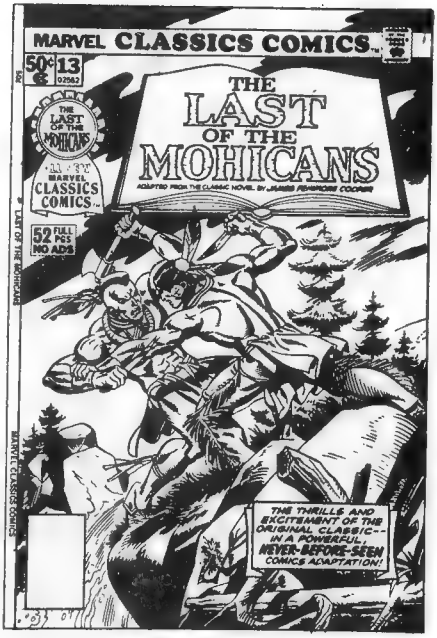
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THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS
THE THRILLS AND EXCITEMENT OF THIS ORIGINAL CLASSIC--IN A POWERFUL NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN COMICS ADAPTATION!

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CONAN THE BARBARIAN (70, January). The first half of a two-part R.E. Howard adaptation from MARCHERS OF VALHALLA is "City In The Storm" by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Ernie Chan. The cover is by Gil Kane and Pablo Marcos. (10/19)

THE DEFENDERS (43, January). The Red Rajah is introduced, Cobalt Man is mind-probed and Egghead attacks in "This World Is Mine" by Gerry Conway, Keith Giffen and Klaus Janson. The cover is by Jack Kirby and Al Milgrom. (10/19)

MARVEL TALES (75, January). From SPIDER-MAN #94: "On Wings Of Death" by Stan Lee, John Romita and Sal Buscema. The origin is retold. (10/19)

POWER MAN (39, January). Cage goes upstate to Mile High Keep to battle the Baron, a medieval-style crime lord, in "Battle With The Baron" by Marv Wolfman, Bill Mantlo, Bob Brown and Klaus Janson. The cover is by Ron Wilson and Janson. (10/19)

RAWHIDE KID (137, January). (10/19)

OMEGA THE UNKNOWN (6, January). James Michael meets The Wrench in this horror story set in Hell's Kitchen, and Omega has that fatal glass of beer in "The Tug Of The Wrench" by Steve Gerber, Mary Skrenes and Jim Mooney. The cover is by John Romita and Dave Cockrum. (10/19)

THE BLACK PANTHER (1, January). Jack Kirby takes over and introes Mr. Little, Princess Zanda and the human from the future, HATCH-22 all in "King Solomon's Frog" by Jack and Mike Royer. They did the cover too. (10/19)

NOVA (5, January). Nova goes up to Marvel Comics to test for a comic book, taking up

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where the Impossible Man-FF story left off, while Tyrannus hatches his scheme to take over the surface world in "Evil Is The Earth Shaker" by Marv Wolfman, Sal Buscema and Tom Palmer. The cover is by Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. (10/19)

THE CHAMPIONS (10, January). Last issue's battle is wrapped up in "One Man's Sun Is Another Man's Poison" by Bill Mantlo, Bob Hall and Bob Layton. The cover is by Dave Cockrum. (10/19)

SGT. FURY (138, January). Featuring: "My Brother, My Enemy" by Roy Thomas, Dick Ayers and John Tartaglione, from issue #36. (10/19)

DOCTOR STRANGE ANNUAL (1, January). Clea is missing, the trail leads Doc to Phaseworld where he meets The Empress Lectra, who is in battle with her sister Thaydra over control of the place -- and Strange ends up fighting them both on a planet that attempts to swallow them up in "And There Will Be Worlds Anew" by Marv Wolfman and Craig Russell, who also plotted it. The cover is by Dave Cockrum. (10/19)

MARVEL TEAM-UP ANNUAL (1, January). Spider-Man and The X-Men team to battle a bunch of nuclear technicians who've been transformed into East Indian gods in "Lords Of Light And Dark" by Bill Mantlo, Sal Buscema and Mike Esposito. The cover is by Dave Cockrum. (10/19)

LOGAN'S RUN (1, January). A Sandman learns the truth: No one is really re-born after being executed on their thirtieth birthday. He becomes a fugitive from the very system he enforced in the first part of the adaptation of the MGM film, done by Gerry Conway, George Perez and Klaus Janson. The cover is by Perez and Al Milgrom. (10/19)

THE DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU (30, December). The White Tiger and Jack Of Hearts track down El Tigre and prepare for their bombastic battle in this book-lengther, "Threads Of Evil, Web Of Hate" by Bill Mantlo, George Perez and Sonny Trinidad. "Field Of Honor" (which somehow fits into the issue despite the above book-lengther) is the conclusion of the SWORDQUEST story and is by John Warner and Tony DeZuniga. (10/19)

CRAZY (22, December). (10/19)

FANTASTIC FOUR (178, January). How The Frightful Four came to earth and how The Brute becomes the newest member is revealed in this story by Roy Thomas, George Perez and Joe Sinnott. The cover is by John Romita and Joe Sinnott. (10/26)

MARVEL TEAM-UP (53, January). Continuing some plot threads from the annual issue, Spider-Man fights Woodgod and Hulk in Liberty, New Mexico in "Nightmare In New Mexico," by Bill Mantlo, John Byrne and Frank Giacoia. The cover is by Dave Cockrum. (10/26)

IRON MAN (94, January). The Kraken story is wrapped up -- but -- is he dead or alive? "Frenzy At Fifty Fathoms" is by Gerry Conway, Herb Trimpe and Jack Abel. The cover is by Jack Kirby and Al Milgrom. (10/26)

HOWARD THE DUCK (8, January). Howard's campaign journal outlines Howard's realization that being a candidate isn't all it's cracked up to be as he's picked for an assasination attempt and is destroyed by scandal in "Open

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Season" by Steve Gerber, Gene Colan and Steve Leialoha. The cover is by Colan and Tom Palmer. (10/26)

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT (42, January). Iron Man appears as Fuzz-face and Ferro-face team to battle The Marauder in 'The Marauder And The Man Of Iron' by Doug Moench and Don Perlin. The cover is by Dave Cockrum. (10/26)

CAPTAIN MARVEL (48, January). This one should feature a new villain in ' Men Call Him -- Jaguar" by Gerry Conway, Al Milgrom and Terry Austin. The cover is by Milgrom. (10/28)

PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN (2, January). Spider-Man is caught between Kraven and the Tarantula in Kraven Is The Hunter' by Gerry Conway, Sal Buscema and Mike Esposito. The cover is by Ross Andru and John Romita. (10/26)

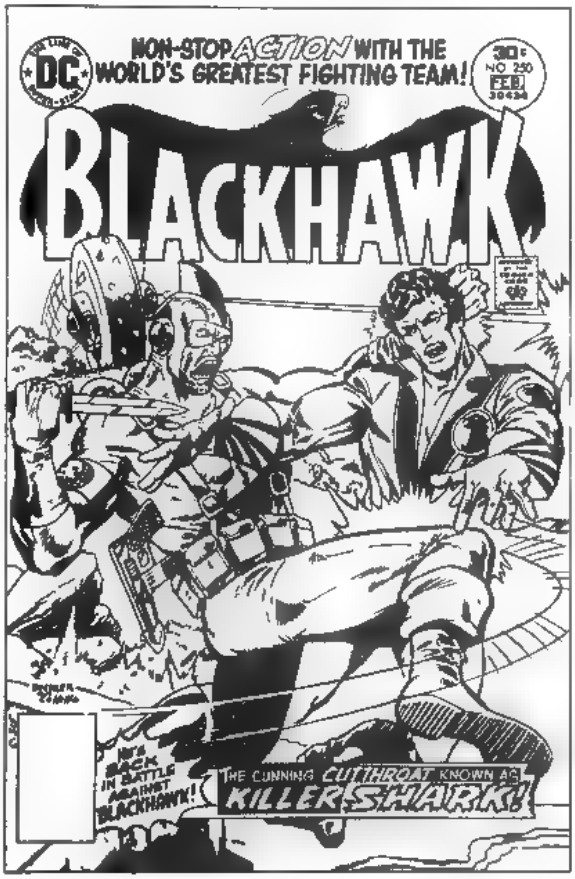
2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY (2, January). The beginnings of the matriarchal government are shown in "Vera The She Demon" by Jack Kirby and Mike Royer. The cover is by Kirby and Royer. (10/26)

MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS (13, 1976). LAST OF THE MOHICANS is by Doug Moench and Sonny Trindad. (10/26)

MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS (14, 1976). WAR OF THE WORLDS is by Chris Claremont, Yong Montano and Dino Castrillo. (10/26)

MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS (15, 1976). TREASURE ISLAND is by Bill Mantlo and Dino Castrillo. (10/29)

MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS (16, 1976). IVANHOE is by Moench and Jess Jodloman. All the covers are by Gil Kane. (10/26)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THE CUNNING CUTTHROAT KNOWN AS KILLER SHARK!
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National Coming Comics

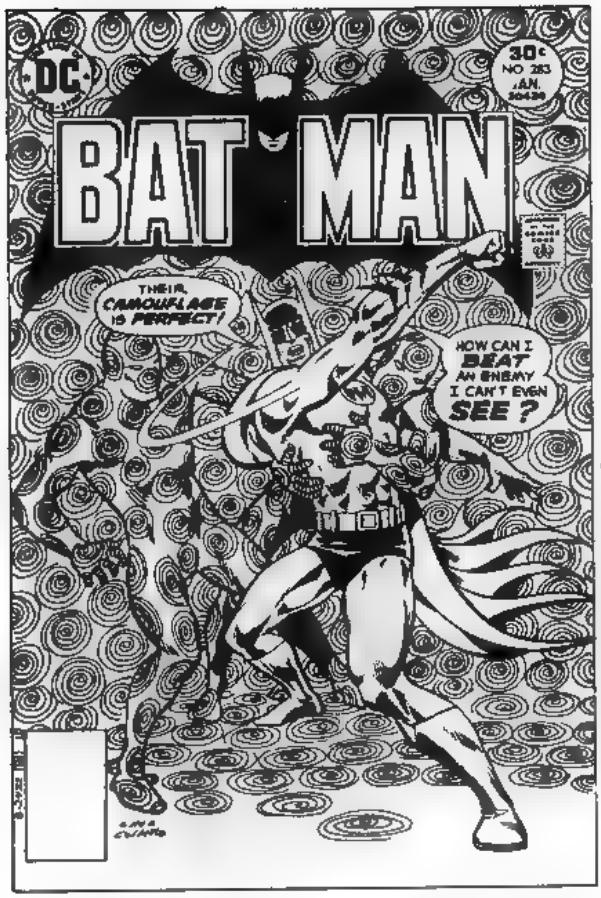
OUR ARMY AT WAR (300, January). The tricentennial of this title occurs just prior to its title change to SGT. ROCK, and it seems only fair. Bob Kanigher, of course, scripts, but Joe Kubert makes a rare appearance as penciller-inker. Next month s issue will be the last OAAW. The cover is by Kubert. (10/5)

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (138, January). Another brink-of-change issue as this magazine goes to 50¢ 48 page format next month. Adam and Alanna Strange return -- well, return's not actually the correct word since the JLA has to travel to the 73rd century to rescue them in "Adam Strange -- Puppet Of Time," the first of a two-parter by Cary Bates, Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin. Next time, Steve Englehart makes his JLA debut. The cover is by Neal Adams. (10/5)

GHOSTS (51, January-February). This is the last bi-monthly issue as the book goes to eight a year and features "The Ghost Who Would Not Die," "The Haunting Spirits Of '76" and "The Blackmailed Phantom," all three probably scripted by Carl Wessler. The cover is by somebody and Vince Colletta. (10/5)

KARATE KID (6, January-February). The Legion steps in to prevent KK from offing his new foe in "Showdown With Commander Blud" by Barry Jameson, Ric Estrada and Joe Staton. The cover is by Ernie Chua and Mike Grell. (10/7)

THE FLASH (246, January). Abra Kadabra transports the Scarlet Speedster to the 64th



Century in "Kill Me Flash -- Faster... Faster" by Cary Bates, Irv Novick and Frank McLaughlin. Plus, Green Lantern, who will continue to appear here as well as his own book, faces a half-plant/half-man adversary in "Fury Of The Floronic Man" by Denny O'Neil, Dick Dillin and Terry Austin. The cover is by Neal Adams. (10/7)

BLACKHAWK (250, January-February). It seems that these are all turning-point issues. After all these years, a Blackhawk dies -- as does this book as of this issue. "The Wheel Of Death" is by Steve Skeates, Ric Estrada and George Evans. The cover is by Rich Buckler and Vince Colletta. (10/7)

FOUR STAR SPECTACULAR (6, January-February). Sure enough -- another last issue! Superboy is featured in "The War Between Superboy and Krypto" by Otto Binder and George Papp, a golden age BLACKHAWK story is included and Wonder Woman stars in "Etta Candy & Her Holliday Girls" by Charles Moulton and H.G. Peter and "The Wonder Woman Album" by Bob Kanigher, Ross Andru and Mike Esposito. The cover is by Ernie Chua and Vince Colletta. (10/7)

RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER (1976 edition). From what we gather, this is a large-sized $2.00 book of indeterminate length with new adventures by writer-penciller Sheldon Mayer and inker Tenny Henson. (10/7)

SUPERMAN (307, January). Is it Superman's incredible delusion? Are all of the things we have been told so many times about the Man Of Steel's origin merely fabrications of Superman's deranged brain? Of course not, but that's the plot of "Krypton No More" by Gerry Conway, Jose Garcia-Lopez and Frank Springer. The cover is by Neal Adams. (10/12)

BATMAN (283, January). In a story that leads him through eastern Europe and Africa, Batman soon discovers that "Omega Bomb Target: Gotham City" in this issue's story by David V. Reed, Ernie Chua and Vince Colletta. The cover is by Chua and Colletta. (10/12)

HOUSE OF MYSTERY (249, January). Two stories this time: "Hit Parade Of Death" by Mike Fleisher, Russell Carley and Buddy Gernale, plus "The Devil Has Two Faces" by Bob Kanigher and Nestor Malgapo. The cover's by Ernie Chua and Vince Colletta. (10/12)

SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS (5, January-February). The war with Darkseid concludes as The Black Rider claims two victims in a story entitled "Endgame" by Bob Rozakis, Rich Buckler and Vince Colletta. The cover is by Ernie Chua and Vince Colletta. (10/12)

WEIRD WESTERN TALES (38, January-February). Jonah Hex is called upon to get rid of a man-mauling white wolf in "Track Of The Wolf... Claw Of The Bear" by Mike Fleisher and Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez. Wolves don't seem to be able to catch a break, do they? The cover is by Garcia-Lopez. (10/14)

RICHARD DRAGON, KUNG FU FIGHTER (13, January-February). After missing a month, Dragon and Lady Shiva return in "Catch An Assassin" by Denny O'Neil and Ric Estrada. The cover is by Ernie Chua and Vince Colletta. (10/14)

KOBRA (6, January-February). Jonny Double and Randy try to stop Kobra in "The Crack-In-The-World Conspiracy" by Marty Pasko, Mike Nasser and Joe Rubinstein. The cover is also by Nasser and Rubinstein. (10/14)

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DC
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NO. 449
AQUAMAN
--AND NOW I'M GOING TO USE THEM TO KILL YOU, AQUAMAN!
YOU BROKE MY TELEPATHIC POWERS, MARAUDER--
AT LAST! THE LONG AWAITED RETURN OF THE MANHUNTER from MARS!

SUPERBOY (223, January). The Time Trapper returns to capture five Legionnaires in "We Can't Escape The Trap In Time" by Jim Shooter (his final story), Mike Grell and Bob Wiacek. The cover is by Mike Grell. (10/19)

SHAZAM! (27, January-February). Sivana s tour of the United States continues as Captain Marvel and Uncle Dudley meet guest star Kid Eternity in "Fear In Philadelphia" by E. Nelson Bridwell, Kurt Schaffenberger and Vince Colletta. The cover is by Ernie Chua and Schaffenberger. (10/19)

WEIRD WAR TALES (50, January-February). Hitler's rise to power is the basis for "An Appointment With Destiny" by Steve Englehart, Dick Ayers and Alfredo Alcala. The cover is by Ernie Chua and Vince Colletta. (10/19)

OUR FIGHTING FORCES (171, January-February). The Losers must stop a new Nazi nerve gas in "A Long Day... A Long War" by Bob Kanigher and George Evans. Gunner and Sarge star in the backup, "The Human Grenade" by Wesley Marsh and E. R. Cruz. The cover is by Joe Kubert. (10/19)

ALL STAR COMICS (64, January-February). Five JSA members go back in time to face Vandal Savage while Hourman battles The Icicle in the present in "Yesterday Begins Today" by Paul Levitz and Wally Wood. The cover is by Wood. (10/21)

ADVENTURE COMICS (449, January-February). Aquaman encounters a new villain in 'Menace Of The Marine Marauder" by ol' AQUAMAN team Steve Skeates and Jim Aparo Plus -- from out of the past comes J'Onnn J'Onzz, Manhunter From Mars as he battles his own people to find an earth killer in "Mission: Catch A Killer" by Denny O'Neil, Mike

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FEB
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
WELCOME TO THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE WORLD!
BECAUSE IF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS DON'T DEFEAT THIS DEMON— THE EARTH DIES SCREAMING!
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DC
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BATMAN
FAMILY
GIANT
CO-STARRING THE FAVORITE KID— BATGIRL AND ROBIN!
AS IF THE JOKER'S DAUGHTER WEREN'T ENOUGH... YOU'RE ABOUT TO MEET THE SCARECROW'S DAUGHTER, THE RIDDLER'S DAUGHTER, AND THE PENGUIN'S DAUGHTER!
STAY OUT OF THIS, ROBIN— THIS IS MY FIGHT!
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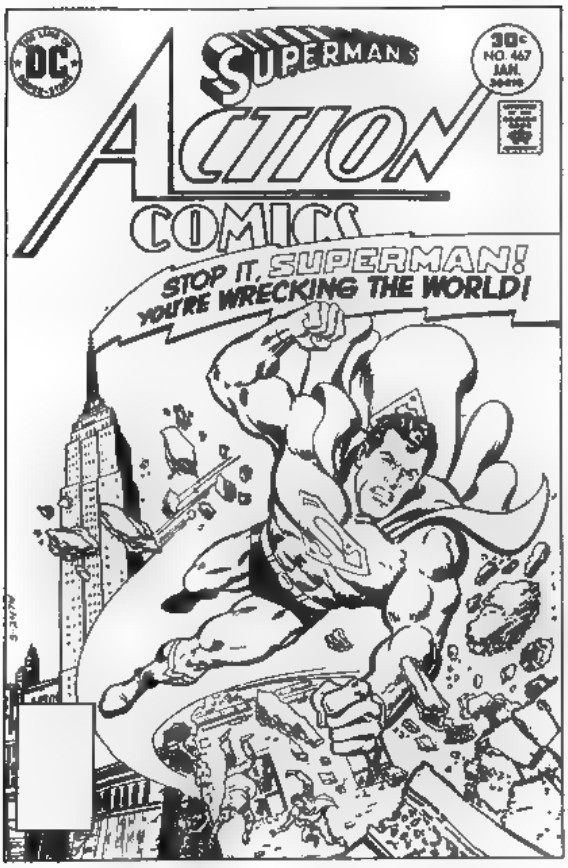
Nasser and Terry Austin. The cover is by Jim Aparo. (10/21)

THE SUPERMAN FAMILY (181, January). Lois Lane stars in "The Secret Lois Lane Could Never Tell" by Cary Bates, Jose Delbo and Vince Colletta. The reprints include Jimmy Olsen in "Jimmy Olsen Marries Supergirl" by Curt Swan and George Klein, thus taking care of two birds with one stone. The cover is by Ernie Chua and Vince Colletta. (10/21)

THE BATMAN FAMILY (9, January-February). Joker's Daughter, Catgirl -- not to mention the daughters of The Riddler, The Scarecrow and The Penguin -- show up in "Sinister Schemes Of The Devilish Daughters" which stars Batgirl and Robin in a story by Bob Rozakis, Irv Novick and Vince Colletta. Reprints are Batman and Robin in "The Blockbuster Breaks Loose" by Gardner Fox, Carmine Infantino and Joe Giella, and "Recipe For Revenge" by Jerry Robinson, starring Alfred. The cover is by Ernie Chua and Colletta. (10/21)

FREEDOM FIGHTERS (6, January-February). Yet another story set in Rutland, Vermont, this time starring the super-fugitives, in "Witching Hour Of The Warrior Wizards" by Bob Rozakis, Ramona Fradon and Robert Smith. The cover is by Rich Buckler and Vince Colletta. (10/26)

G.I. COMBAT (198, January). The Blitzkrieg Brain returns to haunt Jeb Stuart and The Haunted Tank in "The Devil Rides A Panzer" by Bob Kanigher and Sam Glanzman. Bart Regan and E. R. Cruz contribute another O. S. S. tale entitled "The Ship That Would Not Die." The cover is by Joe Kubert. (10/26)



THE UNEXPECTED (177, January-February). Stories in this issue are titled "Reward For The Wicked," "Death Is Dangerous To Your Health" and "Death Is The Surprise." The cover is probably by Chua and Colletta. (10/26)

TARZAN (257, January). A reprint from a couple of years ago makes up this issue, "The Nightmare," by Joe Kubert. The cover's by Ernie Chua and Alfredo Alcala. (10/26)

ACTION COMICS (467, January). The Man Of Steel goes on a rampage in "Stop It Superman -- You're Wrecking The World" by Gerry Conway, Curt Swan and Tex Blaisdell. The backup story features Krypto, Dog Of Steel who battles Mr. Mxyzptlk in "A Superman's Best Friend Is His Superdog" by Bob Rozakis, Curt Swan and Tex Blaisdell. The cover is by Bob Oksner. (10/28)

DETECTIVE COMICS (467, January-February). Batman meets -- Batman! "Pick Up On Gotham 2-4-6" is by Bob Rozakis, John Calnan and Vince Colletta. Hawkman faces The Calculator in "The Man Who Skyjacked Hawkman" by Rozakis, Marshall Rogers and Terry Austin. The cover is by Rich Buckler and Vince Colletta. (10/28)

DC SUPER STARS (11, January). A magic issue, in honor of Hallowe'en, featuring Zatanna in reprints from ADVENTURE, 'Zatanna The Magician' and "Kill Or Be Killed" by Len Wein and Gray Morrow. Plus, Abra Kadabra appears in "Case Of The Real-Gone Flash" by John Broome, Carmine Infantino and Joe Giella. The cover is by Morrow. (10/28)

YOUNG LOVE (123, January). No credits -- just titles, darn it! "Love Is The Answer," "Twenty Miles To Heartbreak" by Alex Toth and Vince Colletta (a reprint) and "The Lost Love" are the stories, among others. (10/28)

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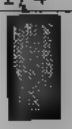

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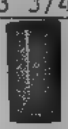

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New For August

ALGOL 26 - Very Professional magazine devoted to science-fiction/Samuel DeLany interview/Dick Lupoff/book reviews/Zelazny's ficfion $1.50

ALL SLUG 1 - Above average amateur strip zine, with a few unpublished Neal Adams sketches/good work by Brent Anderson/Frank Cirocco/lmtd$1.50

AMERICAN SPENDOR 1 - New comix by talents from the underground scene/52 pages of strips plus a new two-pager by Crumb $1.00

ARCADE 6 - Excellent new issue with new strips by Crumb, Green, Griffith, Spain, Wilson and many others/color cover by Crumb $1.50

ATOM ROBOT ADVENTURER 1 - A new mag from the creator of THE SKULL KILLER, an excellent pulp adventure/Superior art by Perry/pulp fiction .75

BEYOND TIME AND AGAIN by George Metzger - Hardcover collection of this fine strip from a San Jose underground paper, 1967-69/attractive oblong format/new endpapers/limited to 1000 copies/new color wrapper $10.00

BLAZING VIOLENCE 2 - Great comic book adventure as "The Predator" deals out his violent law to criminals/sharp cover painting in color $1.50
Issue #1 still available for $1.00/Also, ACE OF SPADES, where the strip first began, is still in stock at 75¢.

THE BRUNNER MYSTIQUE - Sharp art portfolio and checklist of Frank's work, famous for his HOWARD THE DUCK/color front & back covers/heavy stock/many full page previously unpublished illustrations/typeset listing of his appearances, from comics, b&w mags, fanzines & other areas $4.00

CARTOONIST PROFILES 30 - Gasoline Alley article/Kubert's new art school/Fred Hassert/unpublished Lord Dunsany story by Mart Bailey & Russ Jones, a nice 8-page strip/and much more from the art/cartoonist world $3.00

CARTOONEWS 11 - Amazine collection of interesting articles and artwork from editorial cartoons/newspaper strips/comics/old and new $1.00
Numbers 6-10 and CartoonClub Newsletter 17,20,21 still in stock: $1.00

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NYCON '72,'74,'75,'76 - All of these are now reduced to only $1 each, while they were $3! Excellent coverage of the cons, new art, biographies, speeches, panels, photos, thick...1976 is smaller than the others but features Kirby, Steranko & Walt Gibson (creator of the Shadow) in discussion/photos/Archie Goodwin/Kubert/Air Pirates ea: $1.00

RB-CC 128 - Neal Adams interview/Susor cover/The Black Condor/"Spaced 1998 1/4"/The Glob by Walt Kelly/EC Artist Collector/Fanzine reviews/Mike Zeck/fine article on Phantasmagoria's Ken Smith $1.25

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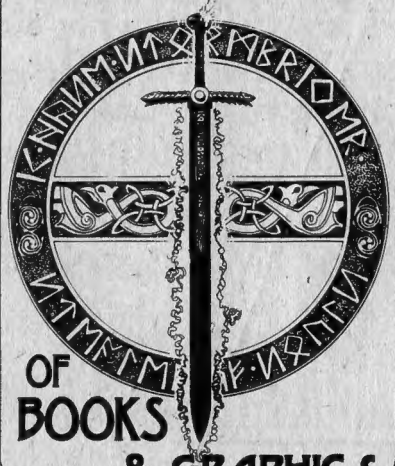

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